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Note verbale dated 15 February 2002 from the Permanent Mission of Ghana to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Ghana to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit the report of the Workshop on Forests and Biological Diversity (see annex), which was hosted by the Government of Ghana, with financial support from the Government of the Netherlands and organized jointly by the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests, at Accra from 28 to 30 January 2002.

The Permanent Mission of Ghana would be grateful if the report could be issued as a document of the United Nations Forum on Forests at its second session.

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Annex

Workshop on Forests and Biological Diversity

Accra, Ghana, 28-30 January 2002

Report of the Workshop

1. The Workshop on Forests and Biological Diversity, which was hosted by the Government of Ghana with financial support from the Government of the Netherlands and organized jointly by the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), was held in Accra, Ghana, from 28 to 30 January 2002.

2. The main objectives of the Workshop were:

(a) To share experiences and facilitate synergies between the elements for an expanded work programme on forest biological diversity of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the multi-year programme of work and plan of action of the United Nations Forum on Forests; and

(b) To consider ways and means for integrating conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity into various national policies beyond the conservation and forest sectors.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

3. Professor D.K. Fobih, Minister of Environment, Science and Technology of Ghana, chaired the opening ceremony. In his statement, he welcomed the participants and extended greetings from the President and the Government of Ghana. He emphasized that the output of the Workshop was going to be strategic and critical for the successful implementation of projects and programmes dealing with forest biological diversity. He wished the experts a productive and successful Workshop.

4. Opening statements were also made by Mr. Jaap van der Zeeuw, Counsellor at the Royal Netherlands Embassy, on behalf of the Ambassador of the Netherlands in Ghana. The representative of the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests, on behalf of the Chairman of the UNFF Bureau; the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), on behalf of the Chairman of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), and the representative of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) also made statements for the meeting. The representative of the Executive Secretary recalled the mandate of the Workshop.

5. The representative of the Minister of Lands and Forestry of the Government of Ghana delivered a keynote address on the Ghana's forest and wildlife policy and its development over recent years. He stressed that the main aim of the recent policy was conservation and sustainable development of the nation's forest and wildlife resources for the maintenance of environmental quality and perpetual flow of optimum benefits to all segments of society.

6. The meeting was attended by 43 experts, from Argentina, China, Costa Rica, Denmark, Estonia, the European Community, Finland, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica, Japan, Madagascar, Malaysia, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Netherlands and the United States; two representatives of indigenous communities; members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests including

FAO, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (DESA), the World Bank, and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO); the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) and Greenpeace. One of the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Forest Biodiversity and two Bureau members of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) of the Convention on Biological Diversity also participated in the Workshop.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

7. The Workshop elected two Co-Chairs, Prof. Alfred Oteng Yeboah from Ghana and Mr. Giuseppe B. Raaphorst from the Netherlands, and a Rapporteur, Mr. Thang Hooi Chiew from Malaysia. The Workshop adopted the provisional agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/WS-Forests/1/1) and the organization of work of the meeting contained in annex I to the annotated provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/WS-Forests/1/1/Add.1), on the understanding that item 3.3 (Exploration of possible joint activities between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests) would be discussed before item 3.2 (Consideration of ways and means for integrating the conservation and sustainable use of forests into various national policies) and, if needed, the two items might be discussed together.

ITEM 3. SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

3.1 Experience-sharing and the facilitation of synergies between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests, in particular, between the elements for an expanded work programme on forest biological diversity under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Multi-Year Programme of Work and Plan of Action of the United Nations Forum on Forests

8. As an introduction, two representatives of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and a representative of the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests introduced respectively the elements for an expanded work programme on forest biological diversity of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SBSTTA recommendation VII/6, annex in UNEP/CBD/COP/6/4) and the multi-year programme of work and the plan of action of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF). They all highlighted possible areas of collaboration.

9. The Workshop addressed item 3.1 of the agenda in plenary and considered also opportunities for collaboration with other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF). Participants recommended that the results of the Workshop be submitted for the consideration of the United Nations Forum on Forests at its second session and the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its sixth meeting. A proposal for effective collaboration on forests and biodiversity among the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Forum on Forests, and their partners is annexed to the present report.

3.2 Consideration of ways and means for integrating the conservation and sustainable use of forests into various national policies

and

3.3 Exploration of possible joint activities between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests

10. The Workshop considered items 3.2 and 3.3 together, first in plenary and thereafter in three working groups. The Workshop recognized ten areas (listed in the appendix to the present report) important for possible joint activities between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests, noting that the list was only indicative. Possible joint activities under four of the ten areas recognized as the most important at this stage were elaborated in detail in three working groups, chaired respectively by Mr. Stefan Leiner (Further development and integration of the concepts of ecosystem approach and sustainable forest management; cross-sectoral impacts on forest biological diversity), Ms. Agnete Thomsen (Facilitating integration at the national level, especially integration of national forest programmes (NFPs) and national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs)), and Ms. Jan McAlpine (Protected forest areas). The results of these working group discussions were combined in plenary sessions, and are given in the annex below.

ITEM 4. OTHER MATTERS

11. No other matters were raised by the participants in the Workshop.

ITEM 5. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

12. The Workshop considered the draft report of its meeting presented by one of the Co-Chairs on behalf of the Rapporteur. Participants requested that the report of the Workshop be submitted to the United Nations so that it is made an official document of the second session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, in March 2002 in New York, and to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity for inclusion in the documentation of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

13. The Workshop requested the Secretariat to complete the report by including the decisions taken in the last plenary and distribute the revised report among the participants in the Workshop as soon as possible.

ITEM 6. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

14. Following a statement delivered on behalf of Prof. Kasim Kasanga, Minister of Lands and Forestry of the Government of Ghana, closing statements were made by Mr. Jaap van der Zeeuw, Counsellor at the Royal Netherlands Embassy, the representative of the Chairman of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests on behalf of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests. The representative of Prof. Dominic Fobih, Minister of Environment, Science and Technology of the Government of Ghana gave a closing address and closed the meeting at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, 30 January 2002.

Appendix

A proposal for effective collaboration on forests and biological diversity[1] among the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Forum on Forests, and their partners

I. OVERALL CONCLUSIONS

1. The Workshop recognized that forest biodiversity conservation and sustainable use are an integral and essential part of sustainable forest management. Current efforts to achieve biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in forests are inadequate, and forest biodiversity is being lost. Both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests have important and complementary roles to address this problem. Urgent action is needed. Collaboration between the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity can strengthen their ability to support and guide immediate and effective action by governments and other bodies. Such collaboration will also facilitate the integration of forest biodiversity considerations in national development programmes, which will be vital for effective implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

2. While the Workshop focused on collaboration between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests, it was recognized that there are many other bodies addressing issues of relevance to forest biodiversity (e.g., other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, including in particular, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification), and collaboration with these bodies is also important.

3. The Workshop identified a general basis for collaboration, and also some immediate actions that would greatly increase collaboration between the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Convention on Biological Diversity and members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.

4. The Workshop therefore recommended that

(a) The Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests approve the basis set out in the present proposal for effective collaboration between them;

(b) The United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity initiate collaboration on forests and biodiversity by developing collaborative actions for the items on the list proposed by this Workshop, while recognizing that other possible areas for collaboration could be added;

(c) The four collaborative initiatives (on the ecosystem approach in the context of sustainable forest management, cross-sectoral impacts, protected forest areas, and facilitating integration at the national level) as contained in section II below, be considered, further developed and adopted for immediate action;

(d) The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its sixth meeting invite the member bodies of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to support the implementation of the

[1] As defined by the Convention on Biological Diversity (Article 2): Biological diversity means the variability among living organisms from all sources including, *inter alia*, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.

programme of work on forest biological diversity, recognizing the shared objectives of Convention and the United Nations Forum on Forests;

(e) The United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity convene in two years time, a small group to review progress in collaborative work, and to recommend future collaborative initiatives; and

(f) The present proposal be submitted for consideration of the United Nations Forum on Forests, at its second session in March 2002, and the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, at its sixth meeting in April 2002.

A. Basis for collaboration

5. The objectives of the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity are complementary and there are, therefore, significant similarities in the work items that the two are asking countries to implement. The shared objectives and the similarity of work areas provide a strong basis for collaboration.

6. The Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests are different in nature (for example, one is a convention and the other a forum), generally draw their delegations and implementation efforts from different agencies, and in some cases appear to maintain different underlying philosophical emphases. They can therefore operate in different ways, and influence different areas of work. Collaboration between them can therefore provide added strength to the overall work, by drawing on and exploiting this diversity.

7. Both entities have a potential work programme that is greater than the available resources. Unnecessary duplication of effort should be avoided, and sharing of effort achieved wherever possible.

B. National level

8. The implementation of commitments made by countries under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests mainly involves actions taken within a country. Implementation at the national level to achieve the shared objectives of the Forum and the Convention needs to be increased.

9. It is clear that achieving greater integration and collaboration between the implementing agencies at a country level is vital. A range of collaborative mechanisms has been used by many countries. These include:

(a) Joint strategies or policies; and

(b) Co-ordinating committees at political and/or technical levels.

10. National commitment and political will, including through effective governance and adequate financial resources, are essential components to achieve an increased level of implementation.

C. Regional level

11. Specific forests, forest ecosystem types and populations of species are frequently distributed over more than one country. Cooperation between countries over which these resources are distributed is essential. In

addition, regional cooperation where there are common management concerns, conditions, cultural and political relationships or other similarities is important.

12. Existing regional instruments and processes should be encouraged and supported to develop closer collaboration and increase the focus on forests and biodiversity in their work. The international community should increase its support for regional collaborative processes that can, therefore, address forests and biodiversity in an integrated way.

D. International level

13. The Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests operate at the international level. Functions of particular importance are to encourage and facilitate implementation and integration at the national level, and to increase the financial support for implementation and making the support more effective.

14. There should be international assistance for the development and implementation of integration mechanisms at the national level. That assistance might include financial resources or technical assistance. It could be delivered internationally or through regional cooperative processes.

15. At the international level, it is desirable to ensure effective collaboration between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests.[2] Effective communication in each other's meetings and joint Workshops are possible ways to achieve this. The Collaborative Partnership on Forests also provides a mechanism for enhancing collaboration on activities addressing common goals of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests.

16. Recognizing that much of the work of Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests will be undertaken outside a formal collaborative processes, a general approach is suggested that would be applied to the work of each party to ensure that (i) the work will positively contribute to shared objectives wherever practical, and (ii) the work undertaken in one entity will not adversely affect the work of the other. Possible guiding elements of such an approach are:

(a) The work of the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity should promote communication and collaboration at all levels (international, regional, national, and secretariats), including increasing the recognition of the shared objectives and relative roles;

(b) The conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity are significantly affected by other sectors (e.g., agriculture, road building, mining), and both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests should promote intersectoral cooperation between those sectors and the Convention and the Forum on Forests;

(c) The work of each body should support capacity-building at all levels that would support the long-term achievement of the objectives of both;

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[2] The work of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests may be undertaken by a range of bodies or mechanisms. In the Convention on Biological Diversity, this might include the Conference of the Parties, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, the Secretariat and ad hoc expert processes. In the United Nations Forum on Forests this might include country and organization-led inter-sessional initiatives, work of expert groups and the sessions of the United Nations Forum on Forests. They may also work through the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and the proposed CPF network.

(d) Cooperation between biogeographic and other regional groups of countries should be promoted by both the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity, as a way to build long-term capacity;

(e) Members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and funding bodies should, when considering forest-related projects, ensure that forest and biodiversity issues are fully integrated, and will achieve the shared objectives of the bodies.

17. The Convention on Biological Diversity is identifying some potential global priorities (such as protected areas), and could work jointly with the United Nations Forum on Forests to promote and facilitate concerted global effort to achieve those. The members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests could play a key role in this work.

E. Financing implementation

18. Both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests have a potential work programme that is quite immense, and which will require significant resources at the national, regional and global level for effective implementation.

19. This makes it imperative that existing sources of financing – multilateral financing institutions (such as the World Bank, regional development banks and the Global Environment Facility), bilateral agencies, as well as national financing – be applied and channelled more effectively. This would require that some of the existing finances be expressly targeted towards the need for greater collaboration and integration of forest and biodiversity programmes in the financing and development programmes of countries. In this regard, the Convention on Biological Diversity should look at its guidance to the Global Environment Facility, and the United Nations Forum on Forests should invite the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its members to ensure these objectives are captured.

20. The Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests should look for ways to facilitate the effective flow of existing resources to forests and biodiversity, and attract new sources of funding. CPF should be invited to explore this issue in a paper, which could also contribute to the United Nations Forum on Forests expert group's work on finance and technology transfer.

F. Attracting financing: a proposal for a consortium[3]

21. The Workshop also considered the importance of attracting financial support to undertake the proposed collaborative initiatives. Understanding that these initiatives could benefit from broad political support, financial partners and from existing and new sources of funding – both public and private – the Workshop proposed that the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity consider innovative financial approaches, in particular through the CPF and the United Nations Forum on Forests expert group on finance and transfer of environmentally sound technologies.

22. The Workshop further proposed that the CPF be invited to work with concerned/interested parties to develop a proposal, for example a consortium approach, to attract financing for collaborative initiatives on a case-by-case basis, particularly where those initiatives would benefit developing countries.

[3] The concept of a consortium is based on approach which would facilitate a group of independent financial partners with a common desire to invest in an initiative.

G. Proposed areas for collaboration

23. The Workshop identified a small number of areas where more concrete collaborative work should be undertaken. Collaborative projects should be chosen by taking into account two factors:

(a) Whether the work is a priority for the Convention on Biological Diversity or a focus of the United Nations Forum on Forests; and

(b) Whether collaboration would materially assist the work.

24. The overall aim of collaborative projects should be to facilitate actions that will make a substantive difference for forest biodiversity on the ground.

25. Collaboration would be most likely to materially assist the work in the following circumstances:

(a) Where one entity is intending to undertake work on an issue, and may be able to make minor alterations to its process to allow it to provide products of use to the other entity;

(b) Where the two entities have different approaches on an issue, and that has potential impacts on national implementation. It would be useful to explore further these differences with a view to developing possibilities for synergy;

(c) Where the two entities are both interested in the same issue, but have different skills, and could jointly address the issue, providing both an increase in overall input and greater overall efficiency;

(d) Where increased political support would advance the objectives.

26. The Workshop identified the following areas for collaboration. The Workshop also prioritized those areas which are presented in the following order resulting from the discussion:

1. Forest protected areas;

2. Issues related to sustainable forest management (as the term is used in the United Nations Forum on Forests) and the ecosystem approach (as described in the Convention on Biological Diversity);

3. Integration at the national level, especially national forest programmes (NFPs) and national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs);

4. Addressing cross-sectoral impacts on forest biodiversity (e.g. agriculture, infrastructure, water, industrial development, transport, mining);

5. Monitoring, assessment and reporting;

6. Valuation of forests and their goods and services;

7. Facilitating the development of improved governance, e.g. land tenure, law enforcement, and community based management;

8. Article 8(j), traditional forest-related knowledge and access and benefit-sharing;

9. Developing approaches for regional/bilateral cooperation on transboundary ecosystems or biogeographical regions;

10. Addressing the relationship between forest biodiversity and climate change.

27. A number of these items were further elaborated, to identify more specifically the way in which the collaborative work could be undertaken. The result of that work is contained in section II.

28. There is a range of ways in which collaboration could be carried out. Some possibilities are:

(a) Technical processes of one entity could draw on expertise from the other, and could provide products for both entities;

(b) Developing position papers for use by both the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(c) Joint inter-sessional processes designed to solve specific problems.

29. The Workshop recognized that the member bodies of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests should support the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity on forests and biodiversity and that countries should encourage the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to agree to that request.

30. There are only a limited number of ways in which the international community can support and guide national implementation. These can be broadly represented as:

(a) Providing financial support;

(b) Providing technical guidance and support;

(c) Increasing political commitment for conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity.

31. In future identification of collaborative areas, it is important to identify which of these approaches will be most effective in overcoming barriers to implementation.

II. FOUR PROPOSED COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVES

A. Protected forest areas

What to achieve:

Action to significantly increase the effectiveness and adequacy of protected forest areas.

Benefits for forests:

This activity would provide significant additional protection of ecologically important forests, including old growth and primary forests and fragile forest ecosystems.

Who should be involved?

Ad hoc technical expert groups established by the Convention on Biological Diversity; Members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, including in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO); the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment; The International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and its Man and the Biosphere programme (UNESCO-MAB); Conservation International, the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the World Conservation Monitoring Centre of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-WCMC), World Resources International (WRI), Greenpeace, country-level experts; and the Indigenous Forum on Biological Diversity

Mechanism:

Three proposed collaborative activities would be organized for the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity:

Activity 1

An inter-sessional meeting co-organized by the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity on identifying options for priority forest areas for protection or improved protection through:

(a) Status of forest and forest biological diversity at the international, regional and, as much as possible, national level;

(b) A review of available scientific and technical literature and data on protected forests and their biodiversity, and assessment of their effectiveness;

(c) Sharing countries experiences, including legislation and management of protected areas.

Activity 2

Five joint regional meetings between the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity on forest protected areas with the following objectives:

(a) Assist governments to identify priority areas at the regional level, such as for protecting hotspots, establishing corridors and transboundary protected areas; and identify opportunities and obstacles to establishing priority areas for protection;

(b) Suggest ways and means including financial resources;

(c) Share countries experiences, including legislation, and management of PA;

(d) Built in the context agreed in the intersessional meeting as proposed above.

Activity 3

Develop and facilitate country initiatives to identify and effectively establish and manage protected areas:

Preconditions of these initiatives should be:

- A consortium of financial and technical partners (public and private) wishing to invest;
- Utilization of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nation Forum on Forests to promote and facilitate the matches between countries and partners.

Elements of these initiatives include: financial support, capacity building, needs assessment, institutional strengthening and technology transfer.

B. Further development and integration of the concepts of ecosystem approach and sustainable forest management

What to achieve:

(a) The activities as identified by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in recommendation VII/6 contained in document UNEP/CBD/COP/6/4 under Programme element 1, Goal 1, Objective 1 (develop practical methods, guidelines, indicators and strategies to apply the ecosystem approach adapted to regional differences, to forests both inside and outside protected forest areas as well as both in managed and unmanaged forests);

(b) A comparative study of the two concepts and their application.

Benefits to forests:

- Better management of forests if integrated approach is applied;
- Strengthened multi-functionality of forests.

Mechanism (for the first two activities):

(a) A discussion paper developed under the auspices of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) involving: the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) and, in addition, C&I processes, and drawing on concrete national or regional experiences;

(b) Inter-sessional country-led initiative under the auspices of both the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity, at both regional and global level;

(c) Highlighting case studies and national successes.

Timing:

(a) Outcome of the country-led initiative discussed at the ninth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the third session of the United Nations Forum on Forests in 2003;

(b) Endorsement of the concept and the guidelines by the third session of the United Nations Forum on Forests and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

C. Cross-sectoral impacts on forest biological diversity

What to achieve:

(a) Reduce negative impacts of other sectoral policies on both forests and forest biodiversity, and

(b) Better exploit potential synergies through improved collaboration among relevant agencies at national level and at international level.

It should be noted that:

(a) If you apply the ecosystem approach as an overarching planning tool, you should have full cross-sectoral integration;

(b) A wide range of sectors should be addressed including *inter alia* agriculture, mining, energy, water, transport, industry, tourism, trade.

Benefits to forests:

Positive impacts of other sectoral policies on forests and biodiversity

Mechanism:

(a) The United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariats to develop a common position paper for discussion at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in order to ensure that forests and biodiversity are fully considered in the World Summit on Sustainable Development decisions related to issues such as poverty, health, water, globalisation, finance. The paper should highlight:

- Examples of negative and positive interactions;
- Case studies and good practices.

(b) Develop guidelines for national and international agencies by a consultant, in consultation with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, under the terms of references co-written by the Secretariats of the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity:

- Identifying ways to combine national forest programmes (NFPs) and national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) and integrate them into national development plans.

Timing:

Discuss and approve guidelines at the third session of the United Nations Forum on Forests and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

D. Facilitating integration at the national level, especially National Forest Programmes and National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans

What to achieve:

By integrating planning for biodiversity and forests within national planning frameworks, to:

(a) Enable the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans to effectively impact on sectoral programmes such as National Forest Programme;

(b) Explore relationships between the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF)/the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF) proposals for action and the possible elements for a work programme on forest biological diversity.

Benefit to forests:

The benefit to forests from such an initiative would be a more complete regional and local biodiversity associated with forest types.

Mechanism:

(a) The Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Commission on Sustainable Development should build into their reporting requirements questions related to integration, in order to emphasize the importance of the issue and increase national focus on it. This implies:

1. Collaboration between the secretariats to prepare collective ideas on how this might be done within their reporting processes;
2. Discussion at the relevant meetings of the entities (6th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the United Nations Forum on Forests in 2004) leading to agreement on how to include this in the reporting requirements;
3. Implementation in accordance with the timetables of the entities.

(b) The United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity will provide information to the Commission on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg on the integration of the two processes, based on information from national reports, this Workshop, and other sources as appropriate.

(c) The secretariats should work together to develop a possible statement, to be considered by the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the second session of the United Nations Forum on Forests.

(d) Develop a common understanding of how financing strategies for sustainable forest management can include a full consideration of the decisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

1. The United Nations Forum on Forests working group on finance would discuss the issue as a significant agenda item, and invite appropriate the Convention on Biological Diversity representatives to be involved in those discussions, with the objective of developing a clear process for achieving the common understanding;

2. The common understanding would be adopted by the relevant individual agencies (World Bank, United Nations Development Program and relevant Collaborative Partnership on Forests members).

(e) Funders (e.g. GEF, World Bank, bilateral aid agencies) should develop transparent procedures to allow them to ensure that any project they fund would be compatible with both the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan and the National Forest Programmes.

1. The Collaborative Partnership on Forests members who are funders would work to develop procedures for their funding activities and test them;

2. The Collaborative Partnership on Forests would then identify ways to encourage other funders to adopt similar procedures.

(f) The Collaborative Partnership on Forests should identify means to provide technical and financial assistance for integration processes within countries. Multilateral and bilateral assistance for national efforts could be through:

- The Programme on Forests (PROFOR) of the United Nations Development Programme/the World Bank;
- National Forest Programme Facility;
- Global Environment Facility;
- Bilateral aid;
- Regional cooperation work.

(g) Countries should develop biogeographic regional technical cooperation (including sharing of experience, potential voluntary review processes, technology transfer, etc) related to this issue, with international assistance.

- Develop a review process to identify impediments to the funding of regional cooperation mechanisms, and to identify solutions to those impediments.
- The Conference of the Parties and the United Nations Forum on Forests should call on existing biogeographical regional processes to explicitly address the issue in their work.

(h) To encourage the incorporation of an indicator, under the criteria for policy in any set of indicators for sustainable forest management, related to the integration of national forest programmes (NFPs) and national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs).

(i) The Collaborative Partnership on Forests would approach appropriate regional criteria and indicator processes to seek their inclusion of this issue in their material.